

REMARKS

Examiner Maier is thanked for the courtesy of granting the undersigned a telephonic interview on July 24, 2007.

As discussed at the interview, the Shibanai and Ishida references failed to disclose or suggest the subject matter of the pending claims. In particular, the Shibanai and Ishida references are not fairly combinable, and, even assuming that the combination of references were appropriate, the references teach away from the claimed subject matter. The Examiner requested amendments to clarify that the claimed subject matter involves a maltodextrin, which is as described in the specification of the present application. Applicants believe that the foregoing amendments are satisfactory and appropriate.

The present application is believed to be allowable. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned by telephone if there are any issues remaining.

Respectfully submitted,

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